

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VALLET 01728 131316Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 EB-08 INR-10 INRE-00
SP-02 L-03 PA-01 NSCE-00 /052 W
-----040420 131323Z /42
O 131307Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8247

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, MT, US
SUBJECT: FELICE MISSION TO GO PUBLIC

1. FOREIGN SECRETARY ABELA HAS JUST TELEPHONED ME TO SAY THAT HE HAD JUST LEARNED THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WILL MAKE PUBLIC TONIGHT HIS EXCHANGE OF LETTERS WITH THE PRESIDENT CONCERNING THE FELICE MISSION. HE WILL DO THIS BY LAYING COPIES OF THE TWO LETTERS ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE, PRESUMABLY IN THE CONTEXT OF HIS SPEECH IN PARLIAMENT WINDING UP DEBATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN SUPPLEMENT.

2. ACCORDING TO ABELA THE PM IS TAKING THIS STEP BECAUSE NEWS OF THE FELICE MISSION HAS REACHED THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION. HE THEREFORE FEELS THAT TO KEEP THE FACTS STRAIGHT AND TO KEEP THE MATTER IN PERSPECTIVE (AND OBVIOUSLY TO KEEP A POLITICAL STEP AHEAD OF THE OPPOSITION HE HAS NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO MAKE THE LETTERS PUBLIC.

3. I SAID I WOULD IMMEDIATELY INFORM WASHINGTON. I ALSO EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE, IN WHATEVER ORAL PRESENTATION THE PRIME MINISTER MAY MAKE, OF STICKING TO THE FACTS REGARDING THE LOAN REQUEST; I.E. THAT A REQUEST HAS BEEN MADE, THAT THE MATTER IS BEING CONSIDERED, BUT THAT NO
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DECISIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN.

4. COMMENT: I SEE A LITTLE CHANCE OF STOPPING THIS MATTER BECOMING PUBLIC AND IT IS PROBABLY BEST THAT IT COME OUT STRAIGHT RATHER THAN THROUGH LEAKS AND GARBLES THAT WILL THEN DEMAND CLARIFICATION. HOWEVER IF THE DEPARTMENT WANTS ME TO ACT OTHERWISE I WILL

NEED TO KNOW IMMEDIATELY. LAINGEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978VALLET01728
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780246-0951
Format: TEL
From: VALLETTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780663/aaaacciv.tel
Line Count: 63
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c0b2bc89-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2366194
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FELICE MISSION TO GO PUBLIC
TAGS: PEPR, MT, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c0b2bc89-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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